

# County Snapshot

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**Placer County's** economy is influenced by its proximity to Sacramento and its strategic location along major transportation corridors, Interstate 80 and Highway 65.

With a projected population of 391,245 by 2020, Placer County is one of the fastest growing counties in the state. Within the county, the fastest growing cities are Rocklin and Roseville.

The 1999 annual average statistics show the civilian labor force for the county to be 119,900 with an unemployment rate of 3.2 percent. This is significantly lower than the state's unemployment rate of 5.2 percent for the same year.

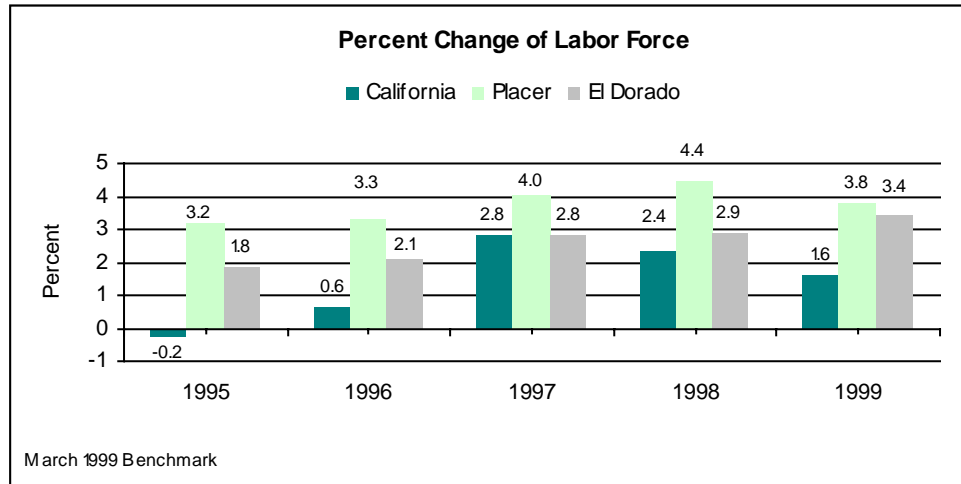
Services is the largest industry in the county accounting for 27.8 percent of total employment. Other significant industry sectors providing employment are retail trade at 21.8 percent, government at 16.6 percent, and manufacturing at 11.3 percent. These industries are expected to continue to support the area's economic environment for the next five years.

Manufacturing is one of the fastest growing industries with a seven year projected growth rate of 53.4 percent. Rapid growth in this industry is due to several large manufacturers in Placer County, particularly Hewlett Packard and NEC Electronics, Inc. These electronic giants are expected to continue to generate new jobs and high-tech status in the area.

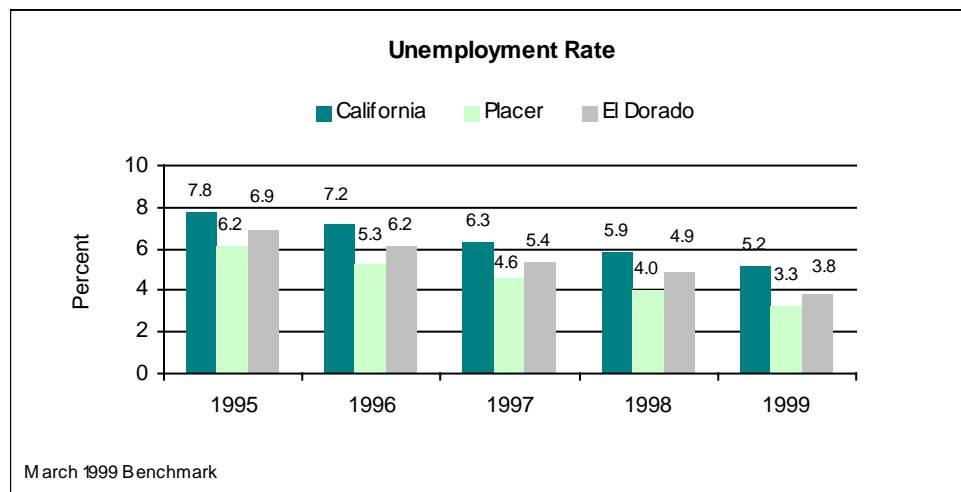
Placer County is part of the Sacramento Metropolitan Statistical Area (El Dorado, Placer, and Sacramento counties) and is also part of the Golden Sierra Consortium (Alpine, El Dorado, Nevada, Placer and Sierra counties). The labor market conditions in Placer County have been improving steadily over the last five years. The county continues to record job growth and lower unemployment rates.

## LABOR FORCE

Placer County's civilian labor force grew in 1995 by 3.2 percent, while the State experienced a decline of 0.2 percent. From 1995 to 1999, Placer continues to outpace the state with 16.5 percent growth compared to 7.6 percent for the state. The fastest rate of growth for Placer was realized in 1998 at 4.4 percent. The sustained labor force gains enjoyed by Placer County are also evident in neighboring El Dorado County, with 11.7 percent growth during this period.

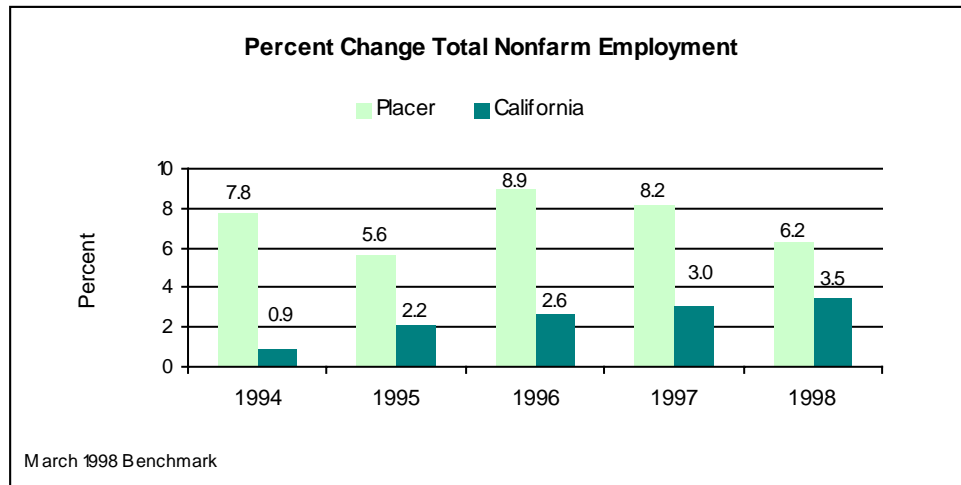


Since 1995, unemployment rates are lower for Placer and El Dorado counties than for the state, indicative of the increasing employment opportunities in the area. For Placer County, the annual average unemployment rate dropped 2.9 percentage points from a high of 6.2 percent in 1995 to 3.3 percent in 1999.

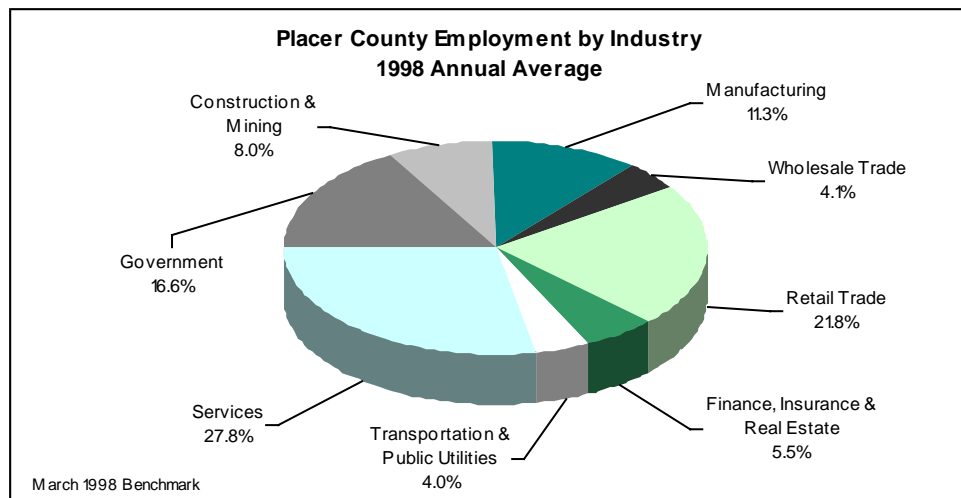


## INDUSTRY EMPLOYMENT

Placer County nonagricultural wage and salary employment has shown strong growth since 1994. Payroll employment in 1998 grew by 5,500 jobs or 6.2 percent. Services and government accounted for 47 percent of this growth with local public education being the dominant component.



In 1998, Placer County employment was dominated by the services, retail trade and government sectors. During the forecast period of 1995 to 2002, it is expected that 70 percent of job growth in the county will be in services, retail trade and manufacturing.



## OCCUPATIONAL EMPLOYMENT

Demographic trends, shifts in demands for products or services, technological innovations and the way business is conducted are some of the variables that drive employment in an occupation up or down. Also, occupations which have large employment and have high turnover rates generally provide the most job openings. Placer County is projected to have employment opportunities not only in the high turnover occupations but also in the more technologically advanced categories. Occupational projections for Placer County are combined with Alpine, El Dorado, Nevada and Sierra counties and published as the Golden Sierra Consortium projections.

Associated Occupations	<b>MANUFACTURING</b> <b>1995-2002 Projected Growth 53%</b>
	<b>Electrical, Electronic Engineering Technicians</b> – 340 job openings. Work as assistants to engineers and use their knowledge of electronics theory and circuitry to draw sketches, make layouts, and build experimental circuitry and production models. Associate Degree. Median Hourly Wage - \$14.81
	<b>Electrical And Electronic Engineers</b> – 330 job openings. Apply theories and principles of science and mathematics to solve practical technical problems. Specialize in the production, transmission and uses of electrical power. Bachelor's Degree. Median Hourly Wage - \$31.44
	<b>Computer Engineers</b> – 260 job openings Assist in the selection and installation of computer systems by providing technical advice and support. Bachelor's Degree. Median Hourly Wage - \$30.20
	<b>Electrical Equipment Assemblers-Precision</b> – 250 job openings. Put together the small internal components that control electrical currents and make the products work. Work Experience. Median Hourly Wage - \$10.92
	<b>Electronic Semiconductor Processor</b> – 279 job openings. Process materials used in the manufacture of electronic semiconductors. Moderate-term on-the-job training. Median Hourly Wage - \$13.04
Associated Occupations	<b>SERVICES</b> <b>1995-2002 Projected Growth 42%</b>
	<b>Data Processing Equipment Repairers</b> – 460 job openings. Repair complex equipment and keep computer systems in good operating condition. Post-secondary vocational education. Median Hourly Wage - \$7.56
	<b>Registered Nurses</b> – 400 job openings. Provide direct bedside care and assist physicians with examinations, chart the conditions of patients, give medication, and administer treatment as ordered by the doctor. May supervise auxiliary nursing personnel. Associate Degree. Median Hourly Wage - \$21.41
	<b>Nurses Aides, Orderlies, Attendants</b> – 330 job openings. Help care for physically or mentally ill, injured, disabled, or infirm individuals confined to hospitals and residential care facilities. Short-term on-the-job training. Median Hourly Wage - \$8.46
	<b>Secretaries, General</b> – job openings.280 Schedule appointments, give information to callers, take dictation, compose and type routine correspondence, read and route incoming mail, and file correspondence and other records. Post-secondary vocational education. Median Hourly Wage - \$13.38
	<b>Amusement, Recreation Attendants</b> – 240 job openings. Schedule the use of recreation facilities, allocate equipment to participants in sporting events or recreational pursuits, collect fees, and operate carnival rides and amusement concessions. Short-term on-the-job training. Median Hourly Wage - \$7.60
Associated Occupations	<b>RETAIL TRADE</b> <b>1995-2002 Projected Growth 22%</b>
	<b>Salespersons, Retail</b> – 940 job openings. Get the customer interested by describing the merchandise and showing how it is used. May also order merchandise, stock shelves, mark prices tags, take inventory and prepare displays. Short-term on-the-job training. Median Hourly Wage - \$7.66
	<b>Cashiers</b> – 580 job openings. Handle cash and credit payments, make change, give receipts, account for all payments, and perform related clerical duties. Short-term on-the-job training. Median Hourly Wage - \$7.13
	<b>Waiters and Waitresses</b> – 320 job openings. Serve food and drinks to customers. Duties may include explanation about how the meal is prepared, wine recommendations or simple food preparation at the table. Short-term on-the-job training. Median Hourly Wage - \$5.68
	<b>Food Preparation Workers</b> – 130 job openings. Keep kitchen work areas clean and orderly, keep restaurant equipment and utensils clean, move supplies and wash dishes, trays, pots and pans used in cooking and serving. Short-term on-the-job training. Median Hourly Wage - \$6.90
	<b>General Managers, Top Executives</b> – 110 job openings. Include both top and mid-level managers whose duties and responsibilities are too diverse and general in nature to be classified in any functional or line area of management and administration. Work Experience, plus a Bachelor's or higher. Median Hourly Wage - \$29.71

This **County Snapshot** is a product of:  
State of California  
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Labor Market Information Division  
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